JAMES H. LESAR
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1231 FOURTH STREET, S. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20024
TELEPHONE (202) 484-6023

February 23, 1976

Mr. Thomas Wiseman
Information and Privacy Unit
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C. 20537

Dear Mr. Wiseman:

On December 22, 1975, I phoned to ask if you could arrange for Mr. Harold Weisberg to view the photographs of the scene of Dr. King's murder and the ballistics materials he had requested the following afternoon, December 23rd, when he was coming to D.C. for a medical appointment. You told me that the FBI agent responsible for assembling the King assassination documents said that it would not be possible to reassemble them in time for Mr. Weisberg to see them on December 23rd. This was the only reason given for his not being able to inspect these records on that date.

Subsequently, on December 29, 1975, I wrote Deputy Attorney General Harold Tyler a letter in which I expressed the hope that Mr. Weisberg's examination of the requested materials could be arranged to coincide with his next trip to D.C., because he suffers from a serious case of phlebitis which makes it inadvisible for him to travel frequently. Copies of this letter were sent to you and FBI Director Clarence Kelley. I received no response.

After the calendar call on February 5, 1976, Mr. Weisberg and I met briefly with Assistant United States Attorney John Dugan and sought to enlist his good offices in arranging for Mr. Weisberg's inspection of your records to coincide with his next trip to D.C.

Today I called to ask that you arrange for Mr. Weisberg to examine these materials when he comes to Washington this Thursday, February 26th. However, you called to my attention a statement in Mr. Tyler's December 1, 1975, letter to me which required that Mr. Weisberg agree to pay the "reproduction and special search costs" if he wanted the photographs which he had in fact requested. You said, correctly, that Mr. Weisberg had not written you agreeing to pay these costs.

Shortly afterwards, Mr. Dugan called. He told me that you would not institute the "search" for these photographs until you received Mr. Weisberg's written agreement to pay the search costs. He also informed me that you could not have the requested materials ready by this Thursday.

ENCLOSURE

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I write, first, to assure you that Mr. Weisberg will pay he necessar search and reproduction costs but he does not waive is right to recover them.

I note, however, that when CBS News requested some of the ume records sought by Mr. Weisberg, the search fees were waived.

I also advise you that I know of two Freedom of Information wsuits where well-known millionaires have not been charged a cent the Department of Justice for searching for the records requested them. This contrasts glaringly with the treatment accorded my ient, who can ill afford such fees, and is an affront to the irit and meaning of the Freedom of Information Act.

Secondly, I ask you to state your agreement with the assurance . Volney Brown gave me last summer that Mr. Weisberg will be. lowed to examine and selected those documents and photographs he its copied, rather than your foisting upon him, sight unseen, tever you may determine to be within the purview of his request.

Thirdly, I ask that you select a date on which Mr. Weisberg l be allowed to examine the photographs and records which he requested. I believe Mr. Weisberg will be able examine these ords on any day between March 1 and March 6, or on March 15. ould appreciate it very much if you could advise me at the earliest sible time which date you prefer.

Sincerely yours,

Jim Lesar

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